

FTK

Nancy Traver  
11 Smith Avenue  
Waterbury, CT 06708

Raised Bill 848

Senator Crisco, Representative Megna and Members of the Insurance and Real Estate Committee.

My name is Nancy Traver and I reside in Waterbury CT. I write to ask for your support of Raised Bill 848 - An Act Concerning Ultrasound Screening.

For the past couple of years it has been recommended by my doctor that I have an ultrasound breast screening in addition to a mammogram due to the fact that I have dense breast tissue. Because I am conscientious and strongly believe in preventative medicine, I have followed through with that recommendation.

This past September I had my yearly ultrasound and mammogram screening. As in the past, the mammogram was covered under routine preventive/screening service at 100% and the ultrasound was not considered "preventive". As a result, I had to pay \$129.22 since I had not reached my yearly deductible amount.

Due to the fact that the ultrasound is recommended in my case as part of a yearly preventive screening along with a mammogram, I believe that they should both be covered at 100% as routine preventive/screening services.

There may be women who will forego this life saving screening because of the cost of the copayment. We know that breast density is one of the strongest predictors of mammography missing cancers and that, when supplementing a mammogram with an ultrasound screening, cancer detection rates can increase from 30 to 50%. Having ultrasound as part of a patient's "well-care" package will increase the likelihood of breast cancer found at its earliest stage when it is most treatable and the survival odds are the highest.

Thank you for your past support of early detection for women with dense breast tissue and for bringing this most important bill to the women of CT.